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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Environmental Management
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FOREST PEST CONDITIONS REPORT - 1991

Summary for Rhode Island

In Pulaski State Park (northwest Rhode Island), two incidences occurred. Wool Sower Gall, occurring on white pine was present. This is caused by the gall wasp Callirhytis seminator (Cynipidae). This was minor/rare, only 4-5 galls spotted in the park. The other occurrence was Ploioderma Needle Cast (Ploioderma lethale) on pitch pine. This is a fungus. It occurred in minor proportions in the park, but could be a potential problem.

There was some hemlock scale present, but of minor importance.

There was some spring/fall cankerworm on oak in moderate proportions.

There was ozone damage to white pine.

There was oak skeletonizer in northern Rhode Island. Before this year, none was present in the state that was noticed.

There was no observed hemlock looper present.

There was salt spray on everything in Newport County, due to Hurricane Bob.

Red Pine, Japanese Black Pine and Hemlock seem to be in decline in Rhode Island, as compared to previous years.

Pear Thrips was of minor importance in Rhode Island in 1991. Light (heaviest) damage to leaves was at the Scituate plot. All other plot locations had very light leaf damage.

The Black Turpentine Beetle was found on Block Island and Little Compton. These beetles are spreading throughout stands of Japanese Black Pine. In the future, a greater number of trees will be infected.

Red Pine Scale was found in Charlestown at the Burlingame State Park. This scale has been spreading at a fast rate, due to homogeneous stands of red pine. It is predicted that the scale should spread throughout all of red pine within a few years.

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The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has been found in Westerly, Exeter, Warwick, East Greenwich, Providence and North Kingstown. The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has spread to new locations, mostly in suburban areas. Most infested areas border the coastline. The areas infested by Hemlock Woolly Adelgid will increase and travel more inland, due to transmission by wind, birds and people transporting infected hemlock.

Other insects/disease we in Rhode Island have come across, mostly on private property are:

Eastern Tent Caterpillar
Oak Leaftier
Birch Leafminer
Pine Bark Adelgid
Oak Leafroller
Black Knot
Bladder Gall
Hawthorn Rust Fungus
Leafstem Gall Adelgid

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1991 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORKSHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

(SPECIFIC NAME): Adelges tsugae

HOST (INCLUDING FOREST TYPE): Hemlock

PRESENT CONDITION: Goddard Park plots were checked, but HWA not found here. Most areas checked were private homeowner's property.

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Area difficult to determine, since infestations are in small pockets, except for Westerly (approx. 10 blocks).

LOCATION (INDICATE ON MAP): Westerly (A); Exeter - Reynolds Horsemans (B) Warwick (C); East Greenwich (D); Providence (E); North Kingstown (F)

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES): Westerly has areas of heavy and moderate infestation and defoliation. Other areas are moderately infected.

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES): Mostly windbreaks and aesthetics.

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Adelgid has spread to new locations, mostly in suburban areas. Most infested areas border the coastline.

FUTURE: Will increase areas of infestation through wind, birds and people. Infestations will likely travel more inland due to transmission by wind, birds and people transporting infected hemlock.

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS): Mostly by spraying. Need at least two spray applications.

COMMENTS:

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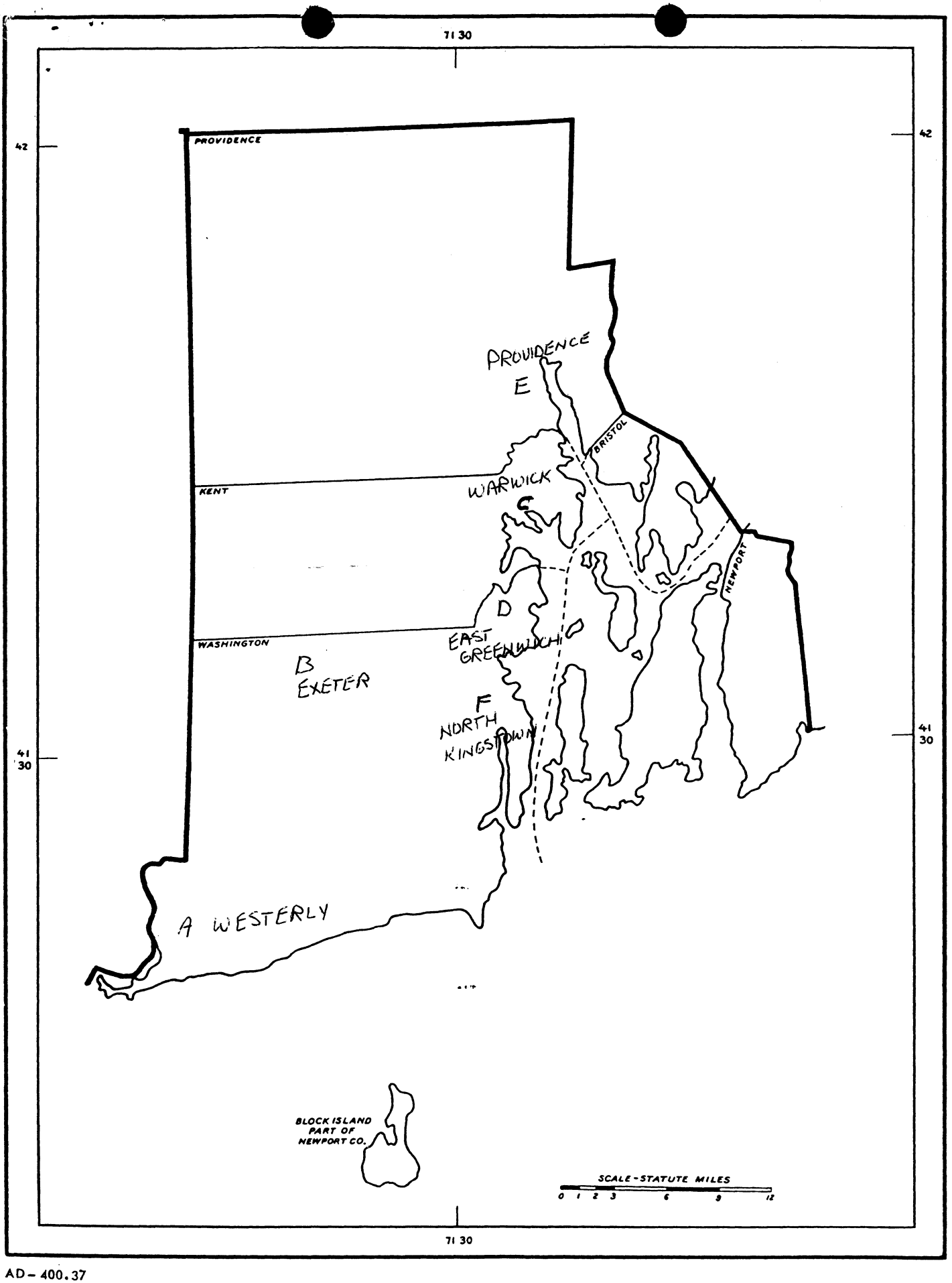

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1991 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORKSHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Red Pine Scale

(SPECIFIC NAME): Matsucoccus resinosae

HOST (INCLUDING FOREST TYPE): Red Pine

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Approximately 40 acres.

LOCATION (INDICATE ON MAP): Burlingame State Park (A, on map)

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES): Heavy defoliation and mortality.

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES): Area is in a state camp ground. Aesthetics, approximately 30 mbf has been killed. Trees are of small pole size, less than 12 inches.

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Has been spreading at a fast rate, due to the homogeneous stand.

FUTURE: Scale should spread throughout all of the Red Pine, within a few years.

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS): Mostly salvage operation, removing dead trees to reduce hazard to campers.

COMMENTS: Due to budget restraints, an intensive control program, spraying and making buffers, have not been done. Some underplanting of White Pine, White Spruce and Larch have been done.

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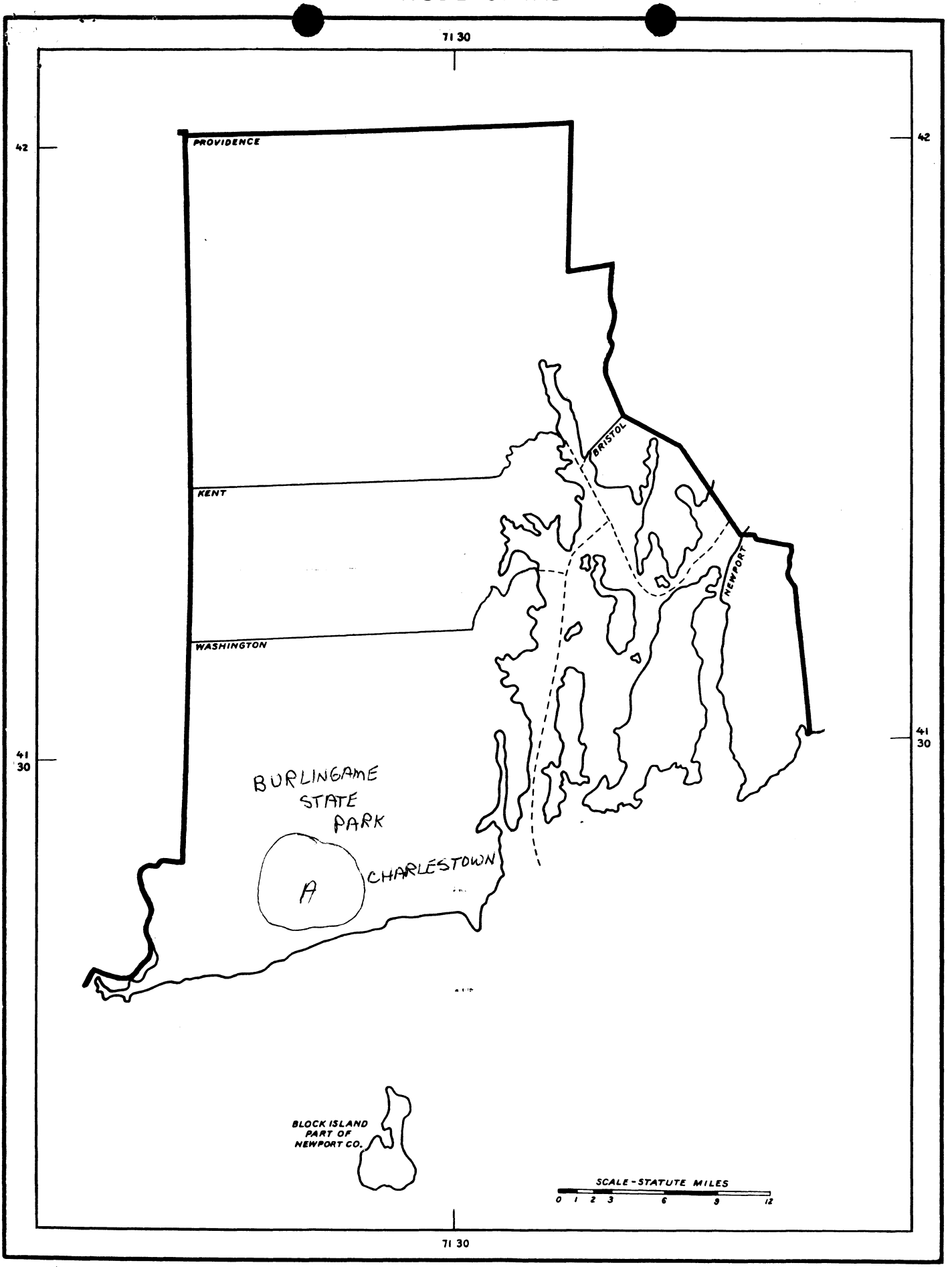

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1991 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORKSHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Black Turpentine Beetle

(SPECIFIC NAME): Dendroctonus terebrans

HOST (INCLUDING FOREST TYPE): Japanese Black Pine

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Block Island (A, on map); Little Compton (B, on map)

LOCATION (INDICATE ON MAP):

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES): Infections and mortality varies among locations. However, many trees show symptoms of stress and are infected (pitch tubes).

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES): Most of the dead trees are of poor quality and used for windbreaks and aesthetics. Dollar figure would be difficult to determine.

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: The beetles are spreading throughout stands of Japanese Black Pine.

FUTURE: Greater number of trees will be infected.

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS): Chemical controls are costly and generally ineffective. Control is mainly removal of infected trees.

COMMENTS: Difficult to determine acreage, since most of these trees are planted for windbreaks, aesthetics, etc.

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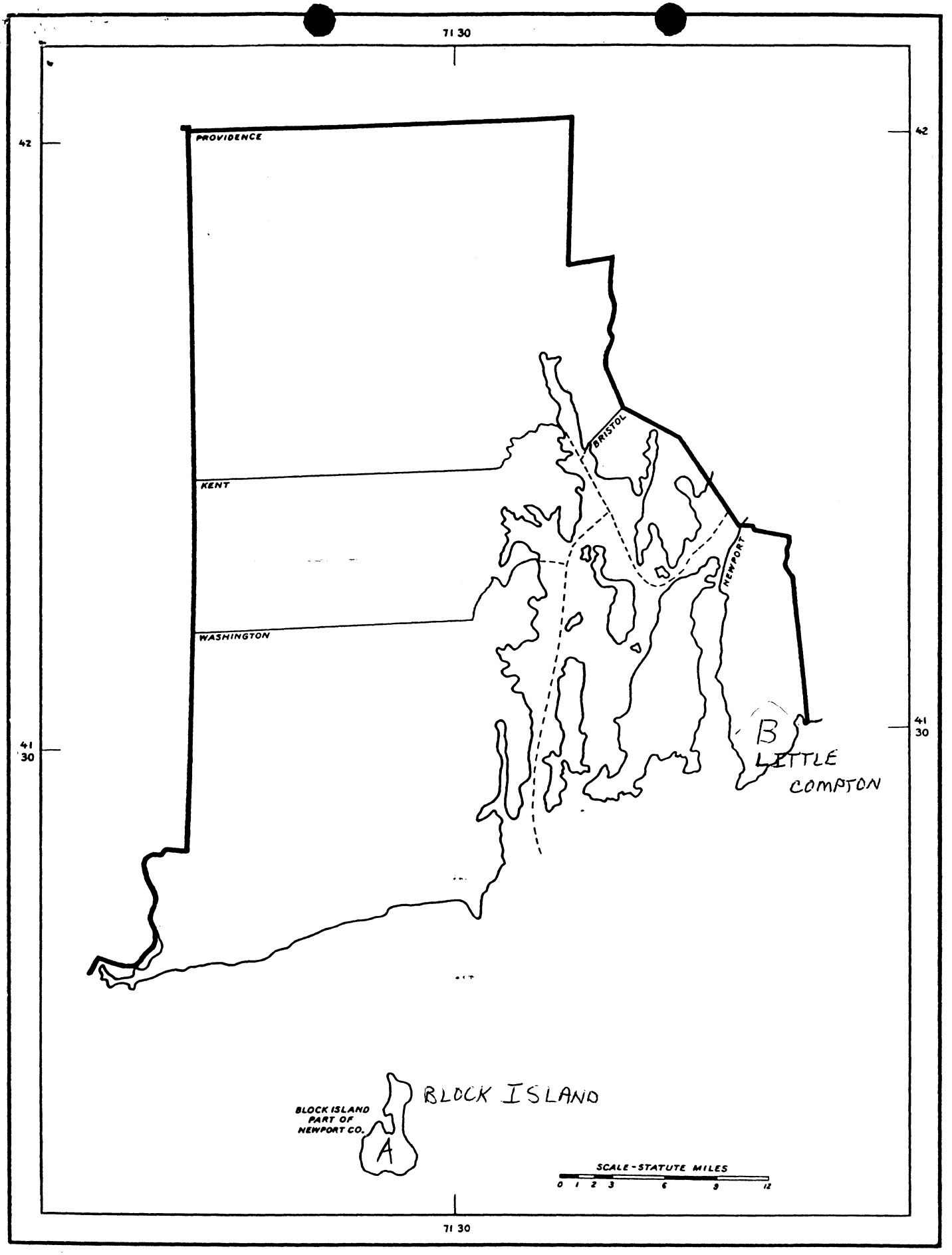

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1991 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORKSHEET

PEST: Gypsy moth

Lymantria dispar

HOST: Mixed Oaks

PRESENT CONDITION:

For the first time in two years, egg masses have been found in Rhode Island. Egg masses have been found in Burrillville and North Smithfield in plots near the Massachusetts border. Additional egg masses were found in one location in Scituate and two in Foster. Both sites in Foster are five miles east of the Connecticut border. The densities range between 10 and 40 egg masses per acre. Viability tests will be conducted on collected samples.

LOSSES: None

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Rhode Island has not had any noticeable gypsy moth defoliation since 1988. The moth has been defoliating stands near our northern and eastern borders in Massachusetts. Connecticut's defoliation is well away from our border.

FUTURE: The presence of egg masses indicates that a population buildup is likely. No severe defoliation is expected this year, but sites with egg masses will be monitored closely for signs of defoliation. The entire state will be monitored for any other undetected pockets that may occur.

CONTROL PROJECTS: None

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1991 PEST CONDITIONS REPORT WORKSHEET

PEST (COMMON NAME): Pear Thrips

(SPECIFIC NAME): Taeniothrips inconsequens

HOST (INCLUDING FOREST TYPE): Sugar Maple, some Apple Trees

PRESENT CONDITION:

AREA (TOTAL ACRES): Total acres difficult to assess. Plot locations were checked once/week using Pre-stickied unbaited pherocom AM traps (yellow in color).

LOCATION (INDICATE ON MAP): Exeter (A); Richmond (B); Kingston (C); Scituate (D)

SEVERITY (INCLUDE ACRES OF MODERATE AND HEAVY DEFOLIATION OR INFECTION; DEFINE CLASSES): Light (heaviest) damage to leaves at the Scituate plot. All other plot locations very light leaf damage.

LOSSES (INCLUDE AREAS OF TREE MORTALITY; ALSO VOLUME AND/OR $ ESTIMATES): No tree mortality seen at any plot location.

TREND:

PAST TO PRESENT: Not a big problem in Rhode Island, including the sugar maple industry.

FUTURE: Not a foreseeable problem in the future. One year being bad and another year not so bad, depends on the time of budding on the trees and the emergence of the insects.

CONTROL PROJECTS (METHOD, MATERIAL, ACRES, COST, RESULTS): No control measures needed at this time.

COMMENTS:

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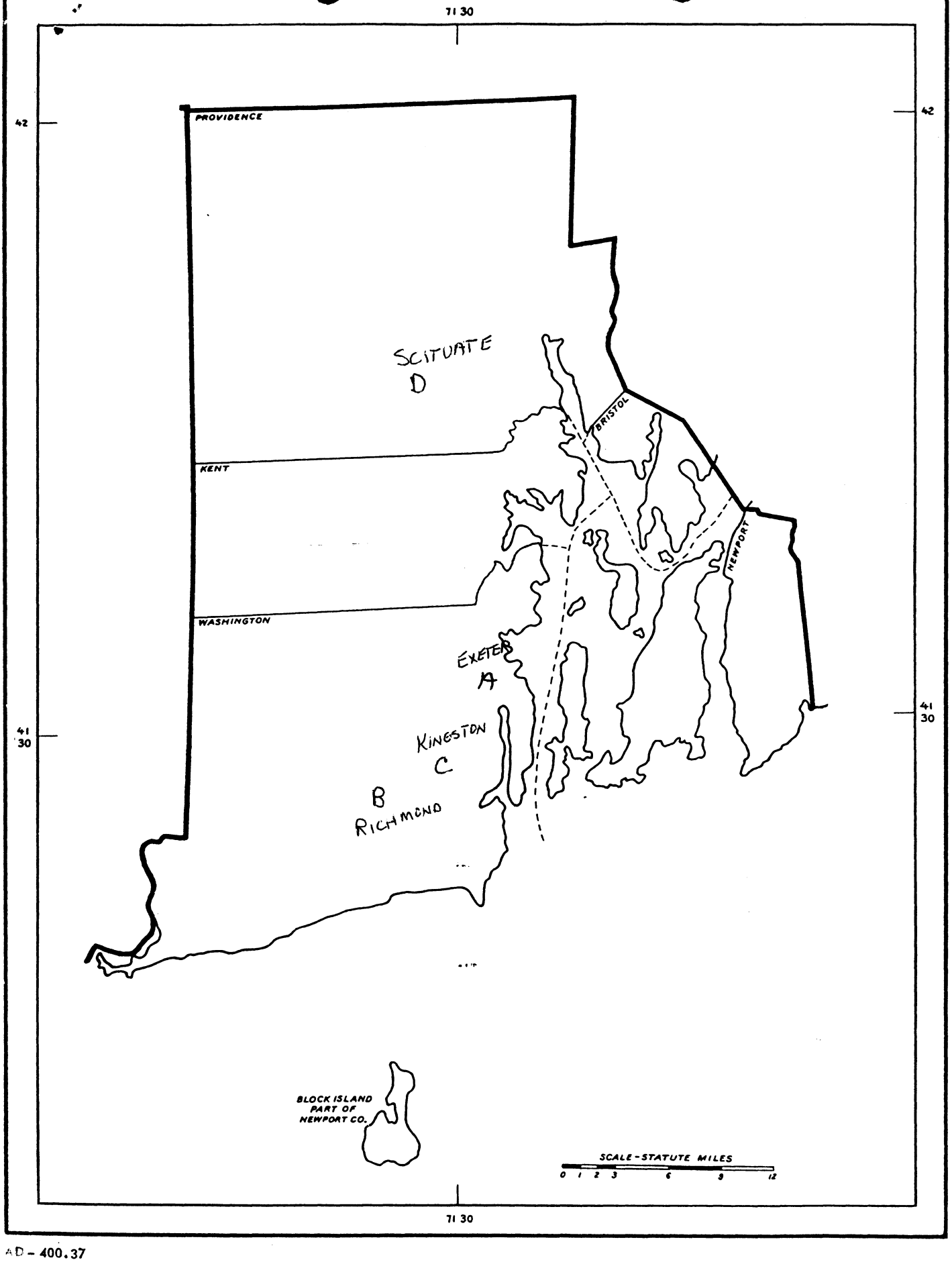

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